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A
- (a) providing a DNA according to claim 4;
 - (b) introducing said DNA in an expression vector;
 - (c) insertion of said vector into a suitable host cell;
 - (d) culturing said host cell to obtain the desired protein product; and optionally
 - (e) purification of the protein or polypeptide produced.--
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Amend claim 10 as follows:

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--10. (Amended) An antibody raised against a protein according to claim 1.--

Amend claim 12 as follows:

--12. (Amended) Use of a protein according to claim 1 in an immunosorbent assay, such as enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).--

Amend claim 13 as follows:

--13. (Amended) Use of a protein according to claim 1 in a screening method wherein compounds having the same or similar biological activities as said protein are identified.--

Amend claim 14 as follows:

--14. (Amended) a method for screening protein or peptide analogues that mimic at least a part of the structure of the protein according to claim 1, which comprises the steps of

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- (a) producing a multiplicity of analogue structures and
 - (b) selecting an analogue structure, wherein the three-dimensional configuration and spatial arrangement of one or

more biologically active regions remain substantially preserved.--

Amend claim 16 as follows:

--16. (Amended) A protein according to claim 1 for use as a vaccine.--

Amend claim 17 as follows:

--17. (Amended) Use of a protein according to claim 1 in the manufacture of a vaccine preparation.--

Amend claim 18 as follows:

--18. (Amended) A vaccine preparation comprising a protein according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically and/or veterinary acceptable carrier.--

Amend claim 20 as follows:

--20. (Amended) A method of preventing a disease associated with mites, such as *Sarcoptes scabiei*, in a subject, such as a human, canine or porcine subject, which method comprises administration of a preparation according to claim 18 to said subject in a pharmaceutically effective dose.--

Amend claim 22 as follows:

--22. (Amended) A method for the diagnosis of a mite associated disease comprising the steps of

- (a) immobilizing a protein according to claim 1;
- (b) providing a sample suspected of being infected with said mite associated disease;
- (c) incubation of said sample with said immobilized protein;

and